IN THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for adding program elements to programs, the method comprising:

displaying a program currently being edited in a first graphical user interface displayed on a computer system, wherein the computer system comprises a display;

displaying a search window on the display;

receiving user input to the search window specifying one or more search criteria;

identifying and displaying information indicating a plurality of possible program elements in the search window in accordance with the one or more search criteria;

receiving user input to the search window selecting a program element from the plurality of possible program elements indicated in the search window; and

including the selected program element in the program in response to said receiving user input to the search window selecting the program element.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of possible program elements are selectable by the user from the search window to add functionality to the program.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1,

wherein the program includes a graphical user interface, wherein the graphical user interface of the program is different from the first graphical user interface, wherein during execution of the program, one or more elements of the graphical user interface of the program are operable to receive and/or output information;

wherein the plurality of possible program elements includes graphical user interface elements which are each selectable by the user to add a particular graphical user interface function associated with a particular graphical user interface element of the one or more elements of the graphical user interface of the program.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of possible program elements includes function elements each selectable by the user to add a particular computer-executable function.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said including the selected program element in the program comprises receiving user input to drag-and-drop the selected program element to the program.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the user input in the search window specifying the one or more search criteria includes a search string, and wherein said identifying and displaying information indicating the plurality of possible program elements in the search window in accordance with the one or more search criteria comprises:

searching for the search string in a plurality of text items comprising text items related to the plurality of possible program elements; and

displaying one or more text items located by said searching for the search string, wherein each of the one or more located text items includes the search string, and wherein each of the one or more located text items references one of the plurality of possible program elements.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the user input selecting the program element from the plurality of possible program elements specifies one of the one or more located text items, wherein the specified located text item references the selected program element.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the first graphical user interface comprises a hierarchy of palette windows, wherein one or more of the palette windows in the hierarchy comprise at least palette item that represents one of the plurality of possible program elements.

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9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the search window includes one or more navigation items for navigating among the hierarchy of palette windows, wherein the navigation items include one or more of a forward navigation item, a backward navigation item, and an up navigation item.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said displaying the search window is performed in response to user input to the first graphical user interface.

11. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for adding program elements to a program, the method comprising:

displaying on a display of a computer system an edit window, wherein the edit window comprises the program;

displaying on the display of the computer system a first palette window from a hierarchy of palette windows, wherein one or more of the palette windows in the hierarchy comprise palette items that are selectable by a user to add functionality to the program the first palette window comprises a search item;

receiving user input selecting the search item of the first palette window;

displaying a search window on the display of the computer system in response to said user input selecting the search item;

receiving user input in the search window specifying one or more search criteria;

identifying and displaying information indicating a plurality of possible palette items in the search window in accordance with the one or more search criteria;

receiving user input to the search window selecting a palette item from the plurality of possible palette items indicated in the search window; and

including the selected palette item in the program in response to said receiving user input to the search window selecting the palette item.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the palette items include icons that are selectable by the user to incorporate graphical user interface elements in a graphical user interface of the program.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the program currently being edited is a graphical program which comprises a plurality of interconnected nodes that visually indicate functionality of the graphical program, and wherein the palette items include icons that are selectable by the user to include function nodes in the graphical program.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein said including the selected palette item in the edit window comprises receiving user input to drag-and-drop the selected palette item to the edit window.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the user input in the search window specifying the one or more search criteria includes a search string, and wherein said identifying and displaying information indicating the plurality of possible palette items in the search window comprises:

searching for the search string in a plurality of text items comprising text items related to the plurality of possible palette items; and

displaying one or more text items located by said searching in the search window, wherein each of the one or more located text items includes the search string, and wherein each of the one or more located text items references one of the plurality of possible palette items.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the user input selecting the palette item from the plurality of possible palette items specifies one of the one or more located text items in the search window, wherein the specified located text item references the selected palette item.

17. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the plurality of possible palette items includes palette items from the one or more of the palette windows in the hierarchy comprising palette items.

18. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the plurality of possible palette items includes palette items from a plurality of hierarchies of palette windows.

19. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the search window includes one or more navigation items for navigating among the hierarchy of palette windows, wherein the navigation items include one or more of a forward navigation item, a backward navigation item, and an up navigation item.

20. (Previously Presented) A computer-implemented method for searching a hierarchy of palette windows, the method comprising:

displaying a graphical user interface on a display of a computer system;

displaying in the graphical user interface a first palette window from a hierarchy of palette windows, wherein one or more of the palette windows in the hierarchy comprise palette items that are selectable by a user to include functionality in a program currently being edited in the graphical user interface;

receiving user input selecting a search item of the first palette window;

displaying in the graphical user interface a search window in response to said user input selecting the search item;

receiving user input in the search window specifying one or more search criteria;

identifying and displaying information indicating a plurality of possible palette windows in the search window in accordance with the one or more search criteria;

receiving user input selecting a second palette window from the plurality of possible palette windows; and

displaying in the graphical user interface the second palette window in response to said user input selecting the second palette window.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20, wherein said user input in the search window specifying the one or more search criteria includes a search string, and wherein said identifying and displaying information regarding the plurality of possible

palette windows in the search window in accordance with the one or more search criteria comprises:

searching for the search string in a plurality of text items related to the palette windows in the hierarchy; and

displaying one or more located text items in the search window, wherein each of the one or more located text items includes the search string, and wherein each of the one or more located text items references one of the plurality of possible palette windows.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the user input selecting the new palette window from the plurality of possible palette windows specifies one of the one or more located text items in the search window, wherein the specified located text item references the new palette window.

23. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the plurality of possible palette windows includes palette windows from a plurality of hierarchies of palette windows.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20, wherein the search window includes one or more navigation items for navigating among the hierarchy of palette windows, and wherein the method further comprises:

prior to said displaying in the graphical user interface the search window in response to said user input selecting the search item:

receiving user input selecting a navigation item displayed on the search window; and

displaying in the graphical user interface a previously displayed palette window in the hierarchy of palette windows in response to said user input selecting the navigation item.

25. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein the navigation item is one of a forward navigation item, a back navigation item, and an up navigation item.

26. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein the navigation item is a back navigation item operable when selected to display a most recently previously displayed palette window in a backward direction.

27. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein the navigation item is a forward navigation item operable when selected to display a most recently previously displayed palette window in a forward direction.

28. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein the navigation item is an up navigation item operable when selected to display a parent palette window of the first palette window, regardless of the most recently previously displayed palette window.

29. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the palette items include icons that are selectable by the user to incorporate graphical user interface elements and function nodes in a graphical user interface of the program.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20, wherein the program is a graphical program which comprises a plurality of interconnected nodes that visually indicate functionality of the graphical program, and wherein the palette items include icons that are selectable by the user to add functionality to the graphical program.

31. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the information regarding the plurality of possible palette windows displayed in the search window includes information regarding one or more possible program elements, wherein the information regarding the one or more possible program elements is selectable by the user from the search window to add functionality to the program.

32. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:
a processor;

a memory which stores program instructions, wherein the memory is coupled to the processor;

an input device configured to receive user input, wherein the input device is coupled to the processor; and

a display device, wherein the display device is coupled to the processor;

wherein the program instructions are executable by the processor to:

display on the display a program currently being edited;

display a search window on the display;

receive user input to the search window specifying a one or more search criteria;

identify and display information indicating a plurality of possible program elements in the search window in accordance with the one or more search criteria;

receive user input to the search window selecting a program element from the plurality of possible program elements indicated in the search window; and

include the selected program element in the program in response to the user input to the search window selecting the program element.

33. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 32,

wherein the program comprises a graphical user interface;

wherein the plurality of possible program elements are selectable by the user from the search window to add functionality to the graphical user interface of the program.

34. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 32,

wherein the program includes a graphical user interface, wherein during execution of the program, one or more elements of the graphical user interface of the program are operable to receive and/or output information;

wherein the plurality of possible program elements includes graphical user interface elements which are each selectable by the user to add a particular graphical user interface function associated with a particular graphical user interface element to the program.

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35. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 32, wherein the plurality of possible program elements includes function elements each selectable by the user to add a particular computer-executable function associated with the particular function element to the program.

36. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 32, wherein, in said including the selected program element in the first window, the program instructions are further executable by the processor to:

receive user input to drag-and-drop the selected program element from the search window to the program.

37. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 32, wherein the user input in the search window specifying the one or more search criteria includes a search string, and wherein, in said identifying and displaying information regarding the plurality of possible program elements in the search window, the program instructions are further executable by the processor to:

search for the search string in a plurality of text items comprising text items related to the program elements; and

display one or more text items located by said searching for the search string, wherein each of the one or more located text items includes the search string, and wherein each of the one or more located text items references one of the plurality of possible program elements;

wherein the user input selecting the program element from the plurality of possible program elements specifies one of the one or more located text items, wherein the specified located text item references the selected program element.

38. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 32, wherein the program instructions are further executable by the processor to:

display one or more palette windows of a hierarchy of palette windows;

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wherein the one or more of the palette windows in the hierarchy each comprise one or more palette items that represent one of the plurality of possible program elements.

39. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 38, wherein the search window includes one or more navigation items for navigating among the hierarchy of palette windows, wherein the navigation items include one or more of a forward navigation item, a backward navigation item, and an up navigation item.

40. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a processor;

a memory which stores program instructions, wherein the memory is coupled to the processor;

an input device configured to receive user input, wherein the input device is coupled to the processor; and

a display device, wherein the display device is coupled to the processor;

wherein the program instructions are executable by the processor to:

display on the display a first palette window from a hierarchy of palette windows, wherein one or more of the palette windows in the hierarchy comprise palette items that are selectable by a user to add functionality to a program the first palette window comprises a search item;

receive user input selecting the search item of the first palette window;

display a search window in response to said user input selecting the search item;

receive user input to the search window specifying one or more search criteria;

identify and display information indicating a plurality of possible palette items in the search window in accordance with the one or more search criteria;

receive user input to the search window selecting a palette item from the plurality of possible palette items indicated in the search window; and

include the selected palette item in the program in response to said receiving user input to the search window selecting the palette item.

41. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 40, wherein the program currently being edited is a graphical program which comprises a plurality of interconnected nodes that visually indicate functionality of the graphical program, wherein the palette items include icons that are selectable by the user to incorporate graphical user interface elements in a graphical user interface of the program, and wherein the palette items further include icons that are selectable by the user to include nodes in the graphical program.

42. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 40, wherein, in said including the selected palette item in the program, the program instructions are further executable by the processor to:

receive user input to drag-and-drop the selected palette item from the search window to the program.

43. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 40, wherein the user input to the search window specifying the one or more search criteria includes a search string, and wherein, in said identifying and displaying information regarding the plurality of possible palette items in the search window, the program instructions are further executable by the processor to:

search for the search string in a plurality of text items comprising text items related to the palette items; and

display one or more text items located by said searching in the search window, wherein each of the one or more located text items includes the search string, and wherein each of the one or more located text items references one of the plurality of possible palette items;

wherein the user input selecting the palette item from the plurality of possible palette items specifies one of the one or more located text items in the search window, wherein the specified located text item references the selected palette item.

44. (Previously Presented) A system comprising:

a processor;

a memory which stores program instructions, wherein the memory is coupled to the processor;

an input device configured to receive user input, wherein the input device is coupled to the processor; and

a display device, wherein the display device is coupled to the processor;

wherein the program instructions are executable by the processor to:

display on the display a first palette window from a hierarchy of palette windows, wherein one or more of the palette windows in the hierarchy comprise palette items that are selectable by a user to include functionality in a program;

receive user input selecting a search item of the first palette window;

display a search window on the display in response to said user input selecting the search item;

receive user input to the search window specifying a one or more search criteria;

identify and displaying information indicating a plurality of possible palette windows in the search window in accordance with the one or more search criteria;

receive user input selecting a second palette window from the plurality of possible palette windows; and

display the second palette window on the display in response to said user input selecting the second palette window.

45. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 44, wherein said user input to the search window specifying the one or more search criteria includes a search string, and wherein, in said identifying and displaying information regarding the plurality of possible palette windows in the search window in accordance with the one or more search criteria, the program instructions are further executable by the processor to:

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search for the search string in a plurality of text items related to the palette windows in the hierarchy; and

display one or more located text items in the search window, wherein each of the one or more located text items includes the search string, and wherein each of the one or more located text items references one of the plurality of possible palette windows;

wherein the user input selecting the second palette window from the plurality of possible palette windows specifies one of the one or more located text items in the search window, wherein the specified located text item references the second palette window.

46. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 44, wherein the search window includes one or more navigation items for navigating among the hierarchy of palette windows, and wherein, prior to said displaying the search window in response to said user input selecting the search item, the program instructions are further executable by the processor to:

receive user input selecting a navigation item displayed on the search window; and

display a previously displayed palette window in the hierarchy of palette windows in response to said user input selecting the navigation item;

wherein the navigation item is one of a forward navigation item, a back navigation item, and an up navigation item.

47. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 44, wherein the program is a graphical program which comprises a plurality of interconnected nodes that visually indicate functionality of the graphical program, and wherein the palette items include icons that are selectable by the user to add functionality to the graphical program.

48. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 44, wherein the information indicating the plurality of possible palette windows displayed in the search window includes information regarding one or more possible program elements, wherein the information regarding the one or more possible program elements is selectable by the user from the search window to add functionality to the program.

49. (Currently Amended) A carrier medium comprising program instructions, wherein the program instructions are computer-executable to implement:

displaying a program on a display of a computer system;

displaying a search window on the display of the computer system;

receiving user input to the search window specifying one or more search criteria;

identifying and displaying information indicating a plurality of possible program elements in the search window in accordance with the one or more search criteria, wherein the plurality of possible program elements are selectable by the user from the search window to add functionality to the program;

receiving user input to the search window selecting a program element from the plurality of possible program elements indicated in the search window; and

including the selected program element in the program in response to said receiving user input to the search window selecting the program element;

~~wherein the plurality of possible program elements are selectable by the user from the search window to add functionality to the program~~.

50. (Previously Presented) The carrier medium of claim 49, wherein said including the selected program element in the first window comprises receiving user input to drag-and-drop the selected program element from the search window to the program.

51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49, wherein the program instructions are further computer-executable to implement:

displaying a first palette window of a hierarchy of palette windows, wherein one or more of the palette windows in the hierarchy each comprise one or more palette items that represent one of the plurality of possible program elements.

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52. (Currently Amended) A carrier medium comprising program instructions, wherein the program instructions are computer-executable to implement:

displaying a first palette window from a hierarchy of palette windows in a graphical user interface, wherein one or more of the palette windows in the hierarchy comprise palette items that are selectable by a user to add functionality to a program currently being edited in the graphical user interface, and wherein the first palette window comprises a search item;

receiving user input selecting the search item of the first palette window;

displaying a search window in response to said user input selecting the search item;

receiving user input in the search window specifying one or more search criteria;

identifying and displaying information indicating a plurality of possible palette items in the search window in accordance with the one or more search criteria;

receiving user input to the search window selecting a palette item from the plurality of possible palette items indicated in the search window; and

including the selected palette item in the program in response to said receiving user input to the search window selecting the palette item.

53. (Previously Presented) The carrier medium of claim 52, wherein said including the selected palette item in the program comprises receiving user input to drag-and-drop the selected palette item from the search window to the program.

54. (Previously Presented) A carrier medium comprising program instructions, wherein the program instructions are computer-executable to implement:

displaying a first palette window from a hierarchy of palette windows in a graphical user interface, wherein one or more of the palette windows in the hierarchy comprise palette items that are selectable by a user to include functionality in a program currently being edited in the graphical user interface;

receiving user input selecting a search item of the first palette window;

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displaying a search window in response to said user input selecting the search item;

receiving user input in the search window specifying one or more search criteria;

identifying and displaying information indicating a plurality of possible palette windows in the search window in accordance with the one or more search criteria;

receiving user input selecting a second palette window from the plurality of possible palette windows; and

displaying the second palette window in response to said user input selecting the second palette window;

wherein the information indicating the plurality of possible palette windows displayed in the search window includes information regarding one or more possible program elements, wherein the information regarding the one or more possible program elements is selectable by the user from the search window to add functionality to the program.

55. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for adding program elements to a program, the method comprising:

displaying the program on a display of a computer system;

displaying a search field on the display, wherein the search field is operable to receive user input;

receiving user input to the search field specifying one or more search criteria;

determining one or more program elements in correspondence with the one or more search criteria;

displaying information indicating the one or more program elements in correspondence with the one or more search criteria;

receiving user input to the search window selecting a program element of the one or more program elements indicated in the search window; and

including the selected program element in the program in response to said receiving user input to the search window selecting the program element.

56. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55,

wherein the program is displayed in a first area of the display and the one or more program elements are displayed in a second area of the display;

wherein said including the selected program element in the program comprises receiving user input to drag-and-drop the selected program element from the second area to the first area.

57. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55, wherein the program is displayed within a graphical user interface displayed on the display.

58. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 57,

wherein the program is displayed in a first window of the graphical user interface and the one or more program elements are displayed in a second window of the graphical user interface;

wherein said including the selected program element in the program comprises receiving user input to drag-and-drop the selected program element from the second window to the first window.

59. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55, wherein at least one of the one or more program elements includes a graphical user interface program element.

60. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 55, wherein the program is a graphical program which comprises a plurality of interconnected nodes that visually indicate functionality of the graphical program.

61. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 60, wherein at least one of the one or more program elements includes a node which is operable to be interconnected with the plurality of interconnected nodes.